

109TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# S. 659

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit human chimeras.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 17, 2005

Mr. BROWNBACK introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit human chimeras.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Human Chimera Pro-  
5 hibition Act of 2005”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds that—

8 (1) advances in research and technology have  
9 made possible the creation of chimeras, which are  
10 beings with diverse human and non-human tissue;

1 (2) serious ethical objections are raised to some  
 2 types of chimeras because they blur the lines be-  
 3 tween human and animal, male and female, parent  
 4 and child, and one individual and another individual;

5 (3) respect for human dignity and the integrity  
 6 of the human species may be threatened by chi-  
 7 meras;

8 (4) the uniqueness of individual human beings  
 9 is manifested in a particular way through their brain  
 10 and their reproductive organs/cells; and

11 (5) with an increase in emerging zoonotic infec-  
 12 tion threatening the public health, both domestically  
 13 and abroad, chimeras present a particularly optimal  
 14 means of genetic transfers that could increase the  
 15 efficiency or virulence of diseases threatening both  
 16 humans and animals.

17 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON HUMAN CHIMERAS.**

18 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of title 18, United States  
 19 Code, is amended by inserting after chapter 15 the fol-  
 20 lowing:

21 **“CHAPTER 16—HUMAN CHIMERAS**

“Sec.

“301. Definitions.

“302. Prohibition on human chimeras.

22 **“§ 301. Definitions**

23 “In this chapter the following definitions apply:

1           “(1) HUMAN CHIMERA.—The term ‘human chi-  
2           mera’ means—

3                   “(A) a human embryo into which a non-  
4                   human cell, or any component part of a non-  
5                   human cell, has been introduced;

6                   “(B) a human embryo that consists of cells  
7                   derived from more than 1 human embryo, fetus,  
8                   or born individual;

9                   “(C) a human egg that has been fertilized  
10                  by a non-human sperm;

11                  “(D) a non-human egg that has been fer-  
12                  tilized by a human sperm;

13                  “(E) a human egg into which a non-human  
14                  nucleus has been introduced;

15                  “(F) a non-human egg into which a human  
16                  nucleus has been introduced;

17                  “(G) a human egg or a non-human egg  
18                  that otherwise contains haploid sets of chro-  
19                  mosomes from both a human and a non-human  
20                  life form;

21                  “(H) a non-human life form engineered  
22                  such that human gametes develop within the  
23                  body of a non-human life form; or

24                  “(I) a non-human life form engineered  
25                  such that it contains a human brain or a brain

1           derived wholly or predominantly from human  
2           neural tissues.

3           “(2) HUMAN EMBRYO.—The term ‘human em-  
4           bryo’ means an organism of the species *Homo sapi-*  
5           *ens* during the earliest stages of development, from  
6           1 cell up to 8 weeks.

7   **“§ 302. Prohibition on human chimeras**

8           “(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall be unlawful for any per-  
9           son to knowingly, in or otherwise affecting interstate com-  
10          merce—

11           “(1) create or attempt to create a human chi-  
12          mera;

13           “(2) transfer or attempt to transfer a human  
14          embryo into a non-human womb;

15           “(3) transfer or attempt to transfer a non-  
16          human embryo into a human womb; or

17           “(4) transport or receive for any purpose a  
18          human chimera.

19          “(b) PENALTIES.—

20           “(1) IN GENERAL.—Whoever violates subsection  
21          (a) shall be fined under this title, imprisoned not  
22          more than 10 years, or both.

23           “(2) CIVIL PENALTY.—Whoever violates sub-  
24          section (a) and derives pecuniary gain from such vio-  
25          lation shall be subject to a civil fine of the greater

1 of \$1,000,000 and an amount equal to the amount  
2 of the gross gain multiplied by 2.”.

3 **SEC. 4. TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.**

4 The table of chapters for part I of title 18, United  
5 States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relat-  
6 ing to chapter 15 the following:

“16. **Human chimeras** ..... **301”.**

